



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northwest Region
7600 Sand Point Way N.E., Bldg. 1
Seattle, WA 98115

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

September 8, 2000

SEP 21 2000

Dr. Jeff Koenings
Director, Washington Department of
Fish and Wildlife
600 Capitol Way North
Olympia, WA 98501

Dear Jeff:

I am writing to let you know of my decision to move to the private sector this month and to thank you for all your help and assistance to me over the past six years during my tenure with NMFS.

The continued broad and growing effort at federal, state and local levels for conserving salmon populations and healthy stream systems is wonderfully rich, challenging and exciting. We have made progress over the last several years, but much good work remains. The salmon challenge is certainly a work in progress, and I am confident that it will continue to grow and evolve over time. I have valued greatly the opportunity to participate in these efforts and to work with you on them.

The work is tough and challenging. It is also hugely important, rewarding and unfinished. I wish you all the best with it, and hope our paths will continue to cross frequently.

Very truly yours,


William Stelle, Jr.

*Good luck, Jeff,
and y'all if I can
help -*



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